

**February 2, 2000 - Minutes**

**Department of Technology Planning**

**Virginia Geographic Information Network**

**Virginia Geographic Information Network Advisory Board**

Virginia Department of Transportation

Board Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Annex Building

1401 E. Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia

Members Present:	Daniel S. Shaffer, <i>Vice Chairman</i>
	Ken Anderson
	Mark R. Kilduff
Designee:	Murali Rao for Pete Kolakowski
Members Absent:	The Honorable John Watkins, <i>Chairman</i>
	The Honorable Watkins M. Abbitt, Jr.
	The Honorable R. Edward Houck
	The Honorable W. Tayloe Murphy, Jr.
	W. Page Cockrell
	Pete Kolakowski
	Kenneth D. Barker
	Michael D. Clower
	Jerry Simonoff
	William C. Cleveland
	Dr. W. Mark Crain
VGIN Staff:	William D. Shinar, VGIN Division Coordinator
	Bob Rike, VGIN Division Assistant Coordinator
	John Mcgee, VGIN Division Assistant Coordinator

The Virginia Geographic Information Network (VGIN) Advisory Board meeting was called to order at 3:15 P.M. by Daniel S. Shaffer, *Vice Chairman*.

The draft minutes of the December 7, 1999 VGIN Advisory Board meeting were reviewed. Comments by Mr. Kilduff were reviewed. . Mr. Kilduff noted that the discussion in the minutes regarding the IKONIS satellite data indicating the exclusion of a digital terrain model with the data should be changed because Space Imaging has now indicated that a DTM is included with the data. Mr. Shinar said that the minutes reflect the discussion and information available at the last meeting but said that the clarification received from space imaging on January 14<sup>th</sup> would be noted in these minutes. The revised minutes will be reviewed for approval at the next meeting because a quorum was not present.

John McGee clarified that through continuing discussions with Space Imaging, the company has said that a DTM is used to rectify the IKONOS satellite imagery. He indicated that the process used to develop the DTM was a company secret and that the company only releases information on stated accuracy of the imagery.

### **VGIN Coordinator's Report:**

#### **Legislation**

Mr. Shinar presented an overview of the Governor's Budget proposal for the Distributed Spatial Data Library (DSDL) and directed members to a summary included in the board packages. Mr. Shinar reviewed goals of the DSDL:

- To achieve true integration of the spatial data resources of state agencies across the Commonwealth.
- Remove bottlenecks and streamline processes for data sharing
- Increase productivity and
- Produce new spatial products and services for the citizens of Virginia.

Mr. Anderson asked about the scope of the Distributed Spatial Data Library proposal. Mr. Shinar outlined the original proposal but indicated that changes made to funding levels during preparation of the Governors budget and any changes to funding by the legislature would impact the final project scope.

Ms. Tingler asked what type of applications would be developed through the proposal. Mr. Shinar said that the primary focus of the DSDL was to provide meaningful applications for the agency partners and he reviewed a number of possible applications including crime analysis, disaster preparedness and public lands.

Mr. Rao asked if specific agencies or applications were associated with the funds allocated in the first year. Mr. Shinar indicated that if and/or when the proposal was finalized the applications would be defined with the agency partners, based on the final package approved by the legislature.

Mr. Anderson asked about the review process for the Governors Budget. He asked if there were specific legislators that it would be appropriate to talk with about the proposals. Mr. Shinar indicated that to date most of the review has taken place in the finance committees, which he has attended and provided information as requested.

Ms. Tingler asked how much money was allocated to the VAPDC matching grant program. Mr. Shinar indicated that \$184,000 has been included with the intent to build a sustainable capability in each of the Planning Districts.

A Natural Heritage proposal to map public lands was discussed as a possible layer that could be made available through the DSDL. Ms. Tingler asked if this effort included natural resources of all public lands. Mr. Shinar said that he understood it to be public lands. Mr. Rao asked if this would include rights of way. Mr. Shinar said that he was not certain. Ms. Tingler asked if VGIN would be managing the Public Lands Project. Mr. Shinar said no, VGIN would help to provide the linkage and access through the DSDL.

Mr. Rao asked if Mr. Shinar could provide a contact at Natural Heritage on the project.

Mr. Shinar presented an overview of the Governor's Budget proposal for the Virginia Base Mapping Program and directed members to a summary included in the board packages. Mr. Shinar reviewed goals of the Virginia Base Mapping Program:

- Build an efficient information infrastructure for the future
- Close the digital divide
- Realize significant savings through economies of scale
- Provide new products and services to the citizens of Virginia

Ms. Tingler asked for the total cost of the proposed statewide effort. Mr. Shinar indicated that the budget proposal includes \$12.3 million for the program and reviewed the following aspects of the project:

- It would not start until the second year of the biennium budget (7/2001)
- It was divided over a 4 year period
- It provided digital ortho photography for the entire state at either 1"=100', 200' or 400'.

Ms. Tingler said that she talked to Alfredo Frauenfelder from Henrico and based on their project costs it would take about \$100 Million to develop the same product for the entire state. Mr. Shinar reiterated that the proposal provides digital ortho photography for the entire state at either 1" = 100', 1" = 200' or 1" = 400' based on population density and that

the funding in the Governors budget was for 12.3 Million dollars. Mr. Shinar indicated he was confident about VGIN's cost estimate.

Mr. Anderson indicated that he had sent an e-mail to Mr. Shinar indicating that it is more cost effective to develop planimetric feature mapping during the digital ortho development process. He suggested that the collection of planimetric data during the ortho development process be considered.

Mr. Shaffer indicated that the intent to bridge a major data need in the State would be met with the Digital Orthophoto program.

Ms. Tingler asked if the proposals included funding small-scale satellite imagery. Mr. Shinar said an estimated 1/3 cost share was included for this purpose. Ms. Tingler indicated that the scale of the data from the Virginia Base Mapping program would not serve the needs of state agencies. She indicated that the VEDP needs smaller scale data with a more manageable file size all of the about the same date. She indicated that part of the State would always be 4 years old with the Virginia base mapping program. Mr. Shinar emphasized that while VGIN anticipates that the Virginia Base Mapping Program would meet some of the needs of state agencies, the real target constituency is the 135 local communities building a quilt of data across the Commonwealth. Mr. Shinar indicated that no one data set would necessarily satisfy 100% of the needs of all users. Ms. Tingler stated that the Virginia Base Mapping Program would not support the needs of the VEDP. Mr. Shinar indicated that the point is duly noted and recorded.

Mr. Anderson stated that he initially thought a matching grant program with the localities was the best way to handle this effort but said that he has rethought the issue and supports the Virginia Base Mapping Program approach.

Mr. Anderson said that one of the VEDP issues could be addressed if the schedule for development was accelerated. He asked if the legislature should be asked for this change. Mr. Rao cautioned that it might be better to wait until tangible benefits are demonstrated.

Mr. Shinar emphasized that how and when specific areas of the state would be scheduled for development would be discussed if or when the budget proposal was approved. At that time the project specifics would be developed by a constituent group working with a consultant to develop a plan based on the highest efficiencies.

Mr. Kilduff indicated that, like VGIN, VEDP has a board and that they always present budget proposals to their Board prior to submission. He said that he would suggest and encourage VGIN to do the same. Mr. Shinar stated that he has followed the procedures for working with an advisory board, which may be different from the VEDP Board. Mr. Kilduff said that he normally lays out a laundry list rather than specific items in order to enlist the expertise and experience of the board to assist with the development of priorities. Mr. Shinar indicated that these recommendations were an amalgamation of interests from all VGIN constituents including the board.

Mr. Shinar reported that the announcement for budget proposals had been added to the VGIN Web page.

Since the last Board meeting Mr. Shinar provided briefings to:

Executive staff,

VACO executives,

Local government representatives at the VACO/VML joint budget briefing,

Planning District Commission representatives,

With the Secretary of Technology, Legislative Joint Committee on Technology and Science (JCOTS), the Senate Finance Committee and is scheduled for House appropriations on Friday.

Mr. Shinar reported that VGIN has also provided information to constituents that want to communicate interest to their legislators.

Two legislative bills have been identified which refer to GIS, a natural resources and an agricultural land resolution.

Mr. Shinar said he also spent a portion of his time reviewing legislation for the Secretary.

### **State Government and Higher Education**

Mr. McGee reported that the last State Users Group meeting was held on December 16 and covered new features of Arc Info 8. The next meeting is scheduled on February 17, and will include presentations by Murali Rao, of VDOT and Larry Robinson, of the US Census Bureau.

Mr. Shaffer asked if the State Users Group meetings were open to everyone. Mr. McGee said that the intent was to have a users group specifically for State Agency GIS users. Mr. Shinar added that it really depended on the topics being covered in the meeting.

Ms. Tingler asked how many State Agencies currently use ArcInfo 8. Mr. McGee said that most of the users have the software now but that no one has completely moved to the new release. Migration of existing AML applications is an issue.

Mr. McGee reported that he has been working on the development of the GIS resources for the VGIN Web Site including Private Sector, Planning District, University and State Agency Resource information.

Mr. McGee reported that the first Academic Forum has been organized and is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday May 22nd - 23rd, 2000. He said that about 50 faculty members

from universities across the commonwealth involved with GIS have been invited to the Roslyn Diocesan Center to summarize and share their experience and expertise with GIS.

Mr. McGee reported that he has just received a new final draft of the Geodesy Work Group white paper on control.

### **Local Government**

Mr. Rike reported that he has collected about 40 published articles, which demonstrate successful local government applications of GIS. The intent is to develop a resource library, which is available through the VGIN Web Site for local government decision-makers.

Mr. Rike reported that he has been contacting localities to develop the information for the local government GIS resources area on the VGIN Web site. We have a meeting with VIPNet next week to discuss a schedule for posting the information.

Mr. Rike reported that he attended meetings with:

- VACO

- The NOVA GIS Managers Meeting

- The Western Virginia GIS Users Group

- Representative of the City of Richmond

- Representative of the Hampton Roads Technology Council.

- Virginia Surveyors and attended the VAS Annual Conference

Mr. Rike indicated that between the holidays, Y2k and the weather it has been difficult to make headway on the Utility Forum but that he would continue to work on this.

Mr. Rike indicated that he has collected examples of "Cook Books" for GIS implementation in local government from Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Georgia and Vermont. These are being evaluated for use by the Local Government Work Group as a starting point for the development of a "Cook Book" for Virginia.

Mr. Rike reported that the Lands Records Management Task Force has not met since the last Board meeting but that he was following activities of the group.

Local Government support was provided for 5 localities.

### **Technology**

Mr. Blaes reported that VGIN provided mapping and support to the CDCI on the Y2K effort and helped "man" the bunker on New Year's Eve.

VGIN attended a tour and presentation of the INTERNET2 facility of Virginia Tech.

Mr. Blaes reported that the State Agency metadata standard is complete. A prototype metadata development tool is being worked on which will allow VGIN to step through a metadata development exercise with the state agencies.

Mr. Blaes reported that the Distributed Spatial Data Library workgroup has had three (3) meeting and has an aggressive agenda. The group is focusing on 4 key areas:

- Architecture/Platform Technology Outline and Evaluation,
- Development of an Implementation Matrix,
- SDE/Oracle/Citrix Interviews with other states,
- And eventually Software/hardware comparisons.

Mr. Rao asked how much progress had been made on the software and hardware comparisons. Mr. Shinar said that this comparison would be done once a thorough investigation of the other elements is complete.

Mr. Kinsey of the Department of Environmental Quality asked if people who are moving data to the web are using similar software. Mr. Shaffer indicated that in his experience there is no common standard and people are using a number of software solutions.

Mr. Blaes reported that he provided support for the Crime Commission and DES. Mr. Shinar clarified that the support being provided is to assist other state agencies in understanding the potential and benefits of GIS and to assist them with the development of appropriate resources to meet their own needs.

### **Issues:**

#### **Surveyors Regulation Legislation**

Mr. Shinar reported that the issue was discussed in a meeting with the Virginia Association of Surveyors and again at the VAS Annual Conference in Charlottesville where VAMLIS sponsored a panel discussion on the subject a re-definition of surveying to regulate Photogrammetry and GIS. Mr. Shinar indicated that there are obviously a number of angles, issues and motives involved in this topic. A positive aspect of the meeting with the Virginia Surveyors and the panel discussion and the annual conference was willingness on the part of all parties concerned to study the issue and take some time to build consensus among all of the affected interest groups. The VAS has decided to study the issue this year and VGIN is looking forward to participating and helping to facilitate that process.

Ms. Tingler said that she had talked to the folks in South Carolina and had received a copy of the legislative redraft that they developed. She offered to pass a copy on to Mr. Shinar for review.

Mr. Shaffer asked about the discussion at the VAMLIS panel. Mr. Shinar indicated that it was a lively discussion. He said that a VAS committee headed by Nancy Conklin has been looking at the issue. Mr. Shinar indicated that Phil Nester has contacted him to continue the discussion.

#### **Hydrography**

Mr. McGee gave a report on the status of 1:24000 hydrographic mapping in the state. Approximately 251 out of 815 quad maps are complete in the state. 63 are currently in progress. Another 170 additional quads are part of the Dept. of Interior High Priority project, (western section of the Chesapeake Bay) and will be completed by Aug. of 2000. The DOI has classified the remaining quads in the Chesapeake Bay watershed as High Priority, and they are scheduled for completion by Aug. 2001. VGIN is currently working on a partnership with North Carolina and the USGS to facilitate the completion

of approximately 120 quads. that lie in watersheds shared by NC and VA. . This leaves approximately 92 quads unaccounted for.

Mr. Shaffer said that DMME might have some of the quads indicated as not scheduled for availability. They were digitized by a private firm and obviously not included in the USGS inventory.

### **Board Membership**

Mr. Shinar reported that the recommendations for board membership have been sent to the Secretary of Technology.

### **Metadata Review**

Mr. Shinar said that he would talk to the Chairman to see if the Draft Metadata Standard can be sent directly to the Policy and Standards committee prior to the next board meeting.

### **Procurement**

Mr. Shinar suggested that the board assemble an ad hoc committee to look at State procurement issues related to GIS. Mr. Shinar said he would bring this up at the next meeting when a quorum is present.

### **Business Plan and Cost Recovery Report**

Mr. Shinar suggested that the board assemble an ad hoc committee to be involved and assist with development and review of the plan. Mr. Shinar said he would bring this up at the next meeting when a quorum is present.

### **New Business:**

No new business reported.

### **Board Meeting Schedule:**

The next meeting of the Advisory Board was tentatively scheduled for Tuesday April 4, at 1:30 p.m. in the Richmond Plaza Building (DTP/DIT) Richmond, VA.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

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William D. Shinar

VGIN Division Coordinator

### **Log of Attendees**



David Kinsey	DEQ
Jean Tingler	VEDP
Herb Ward	DEQ
Dan Widner	VDOT